

Target Group: JUNIORS & SENIORS

Target Group Selection is based on: College Admission and Concurrent Enrollment Requirements

## **ABSTRACT**

This is the second year of a two year project to increase participation not only by seniors but juniors and under represented ethnic populations. The ACT is a crucial component in many admissions/ scholarship applications and is now widely accepted throughout the United States. While reviewing Senior SEOP results we became aware that many of our college bound seniors had not taken the ACT. We worked to increase ACT participation by communicating with students and parents through a variety of methods.

## **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Introduction:

- The Utah CCGP Student Outcome for this project was based on Standard AL:C2.5 (Understand Opportunities in and how to access four year college)
- Intended Outcome: Increase participation in ACT testing.

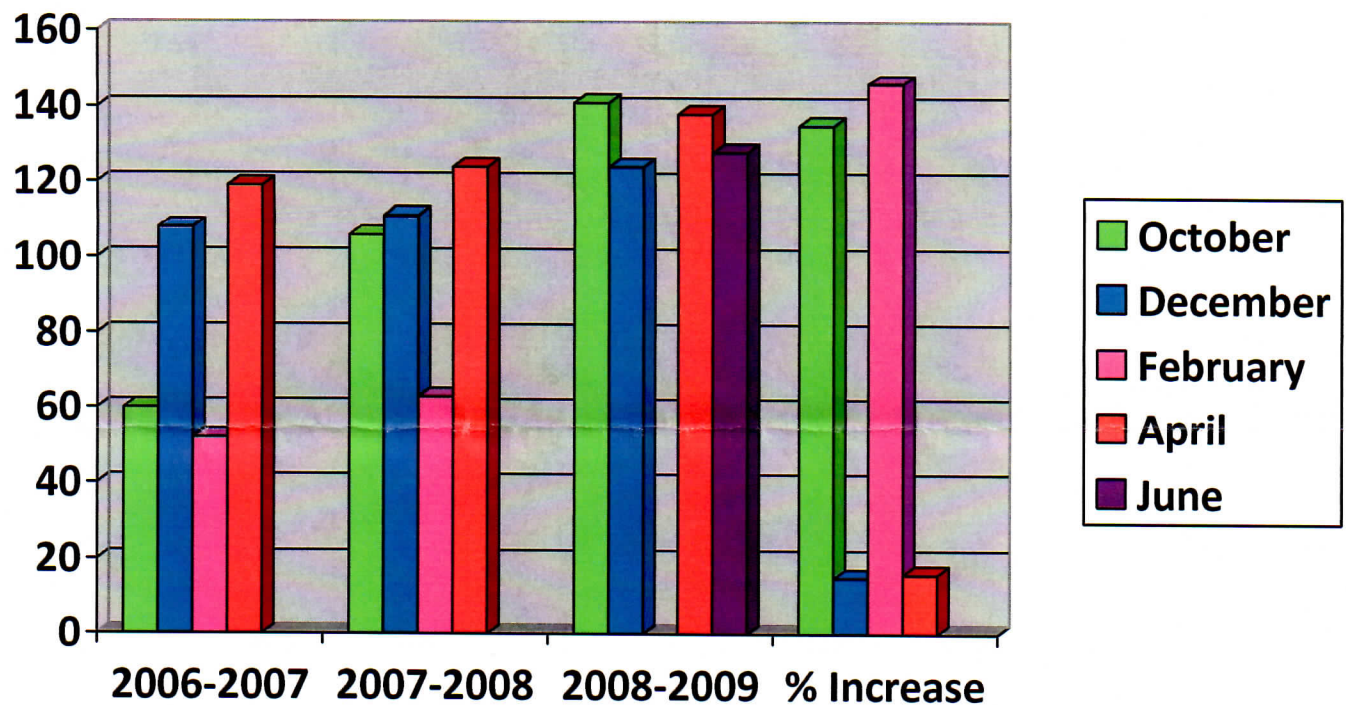
Participants:

- Junior and Senior class

Method

- Announced upcoming ACT deadlines at AP pre-registration/testing and Senior assembly.
- Posted ACT testing dates and registration deadlines
- Included ACT testing dates and registration deadlines in the monthly school newsletter
- Gave information directly to parents and students regarding the ACT during individual SEOP's
- Visited Junior Financial Literacy classrooms to remind students of the importance of the ACT
- Increased PLAN participation as precursor to the ACT
- Dates for ACT testing and registration on the school's website
- Announcements over school PA on the ACT registration deadlines
- A counselor was appointed as the ACT coordinator

## RESULTS



## DISCUSSION

In the past many of our students were unable to enroll in college or missed scholarship deadlines because they had not taken the ACT. Our increased ACT participation will result in improved college readiness.

Despite our decreasing enrollment, ACT participation has increased for every test date over the two year study. For example, 60 Hillcrest students tested in October, 2006 (before this Closing the Gap project) and 141 Hillcrest students tested in October, 2008. This is an increase of 135% or 81 students.

Traditionally, the February test was a smaller test. We choose in the first year of this study to replace the February test at Hillcrest with the June test. We are testing on a date that seems to work better for our juniors.

For next year we have added a September test, and have requested disaggregated data from ACT.